

REMARKS

The Specification and claim 8 have been amended to correct misspellings.

Claims 1-14 are pending in the application. Claims 1-14 are subject to a restriction requirement by the Examiner. Claims 1, 6, 8 and 10 have been amended. Claims 12-14 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 15 and 16 have been added. Support for these amendments are found on p. 8, lines 19-25, p. 9, lines 14-19 and the Examples of the Specification. Accordingly, no new matter is introduced by these amendments.

Reply to the Restriction of Claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 121

The Examiner has restricted Claims 1-14 to one of the following four inventions –

- I. Claims 1-11, drawn to a method of oxidizing carbohydrates, classified in class 162, subclass 72.
- II. Claim 12, drawn to an oxidized carbohydrate, classified in class 8.
- III. Claim 13, drawn to a method of preparing nitrosonium ion, classified in class 435.
- IV. Claim 14, drawn to an absorbent product, classified in class 428.

Applicants elect without traverse the invention of Group I.

Further, the Examiner states that the present application contains claims directed various species. Specifically, the Examiner states –

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: Equations I of claim 5; Equations II of claim 5; and the equation of claim 6. These are all different species of nitroxyl radical mediators.

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: LPO; MPO; EPO; and TPO (claim 8). These are all different species of peroxidase enzymes.

The Examiner considers claim 1 to be generic. For the following reasons, Applicants respectfully traverse the above requirement for election of species.

Equations I and II of claim 5 are obvious variants of one another. The equation of claim 6 is simply a more defined (*i.e.*, specific) variant of Equations I and II. All are variants of

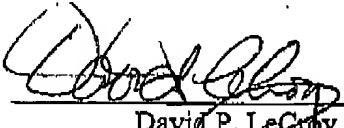
nitroxyl radical mediators and therefore are not patentably distinct. Further, all serve in selectively oxidizing primary alcohols in carbohydrates.

Likewise, LPO, MPO, EPO, and TPO are all obvious variants of peroxidase enzymes and therefore are not patentably distinct. More definitively, all are animal-sourced variants of peroxidase enzymes, and all serve in converting halide ions to their corresponding hypohalite in the presence of hydrogen peroxide.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully requests that both elections of species requirements be withdrawn. In the event that the Examiner maintains his election of species requirements, Applicants elect with traverse the equation of claim 6 and the peroxidase enzyme LPO.

Respectfully submitted,

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